



Commonwealth of Kentucky
Kentucky Department of Corrections

For Immediate Release

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EKCC Receives Perfect PREA Audit Score

FRANKFORT, Ky. (April 4, 2016) – Eastern Kentucky Correctional Complex (EKCC) received a perfect score on its Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) audit with five standards exceeding the requirement. Signed into law Sept. 4, 2003, PREA is intended to improve the detection, prevention, reduction and prosecution of sexual harassment and abuse in correctional facilities across the country.

The audit team consisted of three PREA auditors, all from the Nebraska Department of Correctional Services — Aaron Rule, Richard Brittenham and Levi E. Bennett, who served as the chairperson for the team. The audit included a tour of the institution and several staff and inmate interviews.

The audit team said they were impressed with responses from the correctional officers and other staff members that were interviewed. The impression given was one of a clear understanding of the training they had received regarding PREA and the importance of their interactions with the inmate population.

“It was clear PREA is a priority and staff members are dedicated to the safety of inmates, visitors, the public and staff,” said Bennett.

“I am tremendously proud of all of my staff for their hard work ensuring the inmates in our care are protected each and every day from sexual assault and harassment,” said EKCC Warden Kathy Litteral. “This is a large institution, and this could not have been accomplished without their commitment to professionalism and teamwork.”

“Once again, Warden Kathy Litteral and her team have set the bar high for other prisons in the country to meet,” said Corrections Commissioner Rodney Ballard.

PREA audits consist of 43 national standards that ensure compliance with all facets of this federal legislation. Each of Kentucky’s 13 prisons will receive an initial PREA audit within the first three-year audit period that concludes in August 2016, with follow-up audits conducted once every three years on a continuous cycle.

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